

The Western Harvest

Workers' Mascot A Fisherman

THE SUCCESS OF THE WHEAT CROP is of great importance to the people of Western Canada. On it depends, for a large part, the prosperity of the farmers and of local merchants and others who depend for their living upon supplying the needs of those on the farms. However, the size and quality of Western Canada's wheat harvest affects, as well, many thousands of people far removed from the Western prairies. Those who work for the railway companies, the elevator companies, and seamen on the freighters which carry the grain to other lands are among the many who benefit when a large crop and one of high quality is harvested in the West.

Wide Interest In The Crop

Early frosts, such as occurred three years ago, or heavy rains, such as those which damaged the wheat last year are disastrous to the hopes of the farmers, but they also affect the prosperity of all those whose living depends upon the handling of the crop after it is harvested. It is disastrous, too, to the business communities in the West and to those in other parts of Canada who supply these communities. The expression "One World" has become a part of our vocabulary in recent years, and separation of the affairs of one group of people from those of others is becoming increasingly rare in these times. It is not new, however, for the eyes of the rest of Canada and of other parts of the world to be on the West at harvest time.

Is Need For Wheat Abroad

This year there will be smaller grain crops in other parts of the world and there is need abroad for Canadian wheat to make up for these shortages. So while the Western farmers market their wheat and balance the returns of their work, they may know that many others, from coast to coast in Canada, are likewise affected by their success and that upon it depends the prosperity of other Canadians and the lives of people in other lands. The taking in of the crop has long been an event in the lives of the people of the West, but they may not realize how many, not known to them, share their interest and concern.

Saskatchewan, Canada's No. 2 Oil Province, Potential Doubled

CALGARY, Alta. — Saskatchewan, Canada's No. 2 oil province, has doubled its oil potential in recent months, to a current productive ability exceeding 8,000 barrels daily, and in recent years has boosted actual production for the first time to more than 5,000 barrels daily. The potential is expected to materially increase over the next few months, from evaluation of drilling of recent discovery areas and from new strikes. Actual production will likely get its next large boost next spring.

The Saskatchewan picture compares with current oil production of about 18,000 barrels daily in Alberta, and Alberta potential of about 200,000 barrels daily. The third place is Manitoba, with current production of some 600 barrels daily and potential exceeding 1,000 barrels daily. The province of Manitoba output is expected to pass 1,000 barrels daily in a few weeks, with completion of facilities for deliveries to the Alberta-Great Lakes interprovincial pipeline.

At the time of Alberta's Leduc discovery in February 1947, Saskatchewan was producing 620 barrels of Lloydminster heavy crude daily. Compared to Alberta's 18,000 barrels daily coming from Turner Valley. During the spectacular climb of Alberta discoveries, production since 1947, Saskatchewan has also been moving ahead. Its 1947 average was 178 barrels daily, increasing to 2,342 barrels daily in 1948, reaching 2,832 barrels daily in 1949, 3,422 barrels in 1950, and averaging 4,120 barrels daily during the first half of 1952.

The greatest Saskatchewan encouragement has come this year. In the southwest corner of the province, 56 miles north of the American border, Soccoy-Vacuum Exploration Company has recently struck oil discoveries on lands secured under agreement from Western Canadian Petroleum Corporation and Southern Production Inc. These strikes are in the Fortenton-Cantaur-McConnell-Success area.

So far 14 Fortenton area wells have been completed with oil indicated. Three rigs are engaged in evaluation drilling. Indicated potential is over 1,200 barrels daily and should be substantially increased in coming months. Actual production is small, averaging around 150 barrels daily, and no great increase in output is likely for some months. Primary concern of Soccoy is evaluation of the area, and for good reasons to expect that evaluation will justify in the next year or so construction of pipelines, and a low cost transport of production to market.

Fortenton Pool currently has 15 wells capable of production. Only one is being operated. The pool has over 300 barrels daily on one-quarter inch choke, with crude from the lower cretaceous pay sand showing about 24 degrees API gravity. The Cantaur Pool, 8 1/2 miles east of Fortenton Pool, has three wells capable of production, pay zones being low lower cretaceous sand, one yielding 23.1 gravity oil, the other 11.6 gravity heavy crude. The Success Pool, 10 miles east of Fortenton Pool, has at present a discovery capable of producing 22 gravity oil from a lower cretaceous sand. The Midway Pool, 15 miles southwest of Fortenton Pool, has a discovery oil well capable of producing 22 gravity oil.

Now Many Wear FALSE TEETH With More Comfort

EASTMAN, a pleasant smiling face, is a good provider, holds his teeth more firmly. To eat and talk in more comfort, just get a pair of EASTMAN dentures on your teeth. No gummy, gooey, pasty or ill fitting dentures. Get EASTMAN's any day.

But, mongrel mascot of workers at Bonneville Dam, near Portland, Ore., engages in his favorite sport of trying to catch huge salmon as they leap over an intake to spawning grounds. At last he watches excitedly as one of the fish glides by out of range but at right he makes one in mid-air. However, the every fisherman learns that hooking them is one thing and hauling them in is another—the big fellow got away.

Arizona Grain Grower To Establish Large Alfalfa Seed Farm North Of Flin Flon

FLIN FLON, Man.—A 2,000 acre farm producing registered alfalfa seed for the Canadian market is being established less than 75 miles south of Flin Flon. Builders are busy at the present time tearing out bush that covers over three sections of land on the outskirts of Wanless some 25 miles south of the 54th parallel.

When broken the land is expected to produce thousands of bushels of registered seed that will be sold at top market prices for planting in other parts of the Dominion.

The large project is being undertaken by W. Wright of Arizona. A certified seedgrower and rancher in the United States, Mr. Wright purchased the large tract of land from several residents of Wanless last winter and is still seeking to buy further acreage for his venture.

He has established a home at Wanless and travels between the two widely separated farms by private aircraft. A landing field has been built on his northern farm to allow him to land in his own back yard.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright have been at Wanless since last July although he recently flew back to Arizona. He will return shortly.

Mr. Wright first learned of the area through the Dominion government and a year ago paid a visit to the area.

WINNIPEG.—Longest train in the history of the Canadian National Railways here, a 185-car extra, snaked westward recently, legging the power of two new diesel locomotives.

The train was 1.58 miles long. It included 168 empty cars, 16 loaded and a "Dynamometer" car carrying separate and officials.

Mrs. John Fisher Puts on Blue Bonnet Enjoys F.N.E.I.

Mrs. John Fisher put on Blue Bonnet Margarine for F.N.E.I.—Flavor! Nutrition! Economy! Life the life of a famous Canadian radio personality, Mrs. Fisher, is a true example of a woman who is not only a good housewife but also a good mother. She is a true example of a woman who is not only a good housewife but also a good mother.

Wishing Well? Does Well. EDMONTON.—Mrs. J. A. McAfee reports that visitors to her garden this summer deposited more than \$70 in her Red Cross "wishing well." Money thrown into the well is turned over to the Red Cross Hospital for Crippled Children in Calgary.

PAYS HEAVY PENALTY SLEIGHT LARKE, Man.—23, Middleton of McConnell, Man., was fined \$100 and costs and had his car impounded for six months for having an open bottle of liquor in his car.

JUNE MOST POPULAR June is the most popular month for weddings in North America, largely because the ancient Romans considered it the most propitious month. May, on the other hand, is considered the ideal marriage period in some European countries.

Flin Flon Chinese To Confer With Chang

FLIN FLON, — Charlie Young, Flin Flon hotel operator, has left for Formosa where he will confer with Chang Kai-Shek, National Government head, on assistance that can be given to the homeland by Chinese living abroad. He was accompanied by Mrs. Young.

Mr. Young was selected by the Canadian Chinese benevolent Society to represent Canadian Chinese at the conference.

The choicest breed of cattle is the most common beef animal in the British Isles.

Funny and Otherwise

"It need five dollars at once, and I've only got two. What am I going to do?"

"That's simple. Go pawn the watch for three, and then sell the pawn ticket for two."

Doctor—Do you suffer from heat in the summer?

Patient—Indeed I do. More than in any other season.

"He says he's in two minds whether he'll marry her or not?"

"Yes—hers and her mother's."

The door-to-door salesman was not at all sincere.

"If you are not off my doorstep in thirty seconds," said the householder, "I'll call the police."

"Now, what can I sell you in half a minute?" replied the salesman, cheerfully.

A crows of small girls had to draw a flower. As a preliminary to the lesson, questions were asked about it and the national emblem of the other countries of the British Isles.

And now what is the national flower of England?" inquired the teacher.

"Pansies," the teacher, replied a little girl, "the aspidistra."

On a card in the front window of a suburban home appeared the following notice:

"A piano for sale."

In the window next door another card appeared with just one word:

"Hurrah!"

Returning from his office one evening, a business executive was startled to see a new and very luxurious Oriental rug in his home.

"Where did it come from?" he appeared and said, "Now, don't look so shocked, dear. After all, I've been a good deal of money in night clubs and—"

"Good heavens!" he moaned. "I've never seen such much on a floor show!"

A pretty girl, speeding through the traffic, was stopped by a policeman. "Where are you going, here?" he growled, "where's the fire?"

"What are you worrying about?" she countered, "You're not a fireman."

ODDITIES In The News

Miles Baker of Shelby, N.C., cotton mill superintendent, is absentminded, and glad of it. When he went to a mill exhibition to put the switch back after power was interrupted during a storm, he found the key at the office. A few minutes after he turned back, the switch blew up.

Elk Grouse, a Cornish state trappers finally caught a three-legged coyote that had killed 30 hares in 30 days. The animal apparently came out of the hills into this valley town where its crippled condition made it impossible to compete with other predatory animals in the wilds.

Despite his blindness, 65-year-old George Gerrard of New Bedford, Mass., maintains his garden. He can identify any garden plant simply by touch.

Assembled delegates of Paris sent out for more champagne after delegation to the Congress Against Alcoholism voted five cases at a civic reception.

Mrs. Louis G. Cambrant, wife of Fort Frances, Ont., police chief, laid out \$750.00 at a recent church bazaar sale. It was some \$1.00 more than she had for \$1.00.

ROOM IN VEHICLE SALES REGINA—Sale of cars and trucks in Saskatchewan is expected to top the \$50,000,000 mark this year.

Do You Know That . . .

Canada ranks first in world production of nickel, asbestos and the platinum metals.

Handy, thrifty, delicious!

"SEA BAGS"

Flaky COFFEE CAKES

These toothsome Flaky Coffee Cakes are a sample of the superb results you get with new Fleischmann's Fast Rising Yeast!

No more anxiety about yeast cakes that stay flat and weak! Fleischmann's Fast Rising Yeast keeps full strength, fast-acting without refrigeration—so you keep a supply!

FLAKY COFFEE CAKES

1. Sift 1/2 c. cream, 2 t. granulated sugar, 1 t. salt and 1/2 c. shortening to lukewarm water. 2. Add 1/2 c. granulated sugar, 1 t. salt and 1/2 c. shortening to lukewarm water. 3. Add 1/2 c. granulated sugar, 1 t. salt and 1/2 c. shortening to lukewarm water.

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—By Chuck Thurston

Daring Doe

OUR COMPLETE SHORT STORY—

.... And She Be Fair

By DAY RUSSELL

THE grandmotherly lady was not a person you could ignore. There was a serenity about her that was almost a kind of radiance. She sat, her back-gloved hands crossed on her lap, in the corner of one of the heavy oak double-sized benches that lined the length of the art gallery. She gazed quietly at one picture.

The gallery was exhibiting a collection of Harvey J. Collinson, the city's wealthiest citizen, lately deceased. He had collected art, at first with zest and later with discrimination, and he had bequeathed his collection to the city. Now it was being exhibited, old masters and modern, each in its separate rooms, and the rest, a mixed bag of unknowns, in this gallery where the old lady sat. She had been the first in on this weekday morning but now students were coming in. Two of the older ones, a boy and a girl, did down into the bench where the old lady sat.

"They should have thrown out some of the stuff in this room too," the boy was at the arrogant stage of his convictions. "Sweet stuff."

"And She Be Fair," read the girl aloud. "Vivian Gray. Ever heard of him?"

"Never," said the boy. "Didn't they just love to throw a young girl down on a bank of flowers and paint her all sweetness and light?"

"But she is lovely," said the girl slowly. The boy nodded with superiority.

"Idealized sentiment. But she was never like that."

"But she was!" They started at the old lady turned to them. "You see, I knew her."

Awkwardly, to save fumbling for a reply, they turned to look at the picture again. It was a huge canvas in which a life-sized girl, young and lovely, lay in a patch of mottled sunlight against the shadow of a woodland glade.

"Look at the perfect detail," said the girl.

"Detail doesn't count. Might just be a girl."

STOPS HEADACHE FAST ASPIRIN

Fashions

Classic! Terrific!



R4630
by Anne Adams

THIS IS A TWO-PIECER! You can wear these luncheon separates together as the smartest casual wear ever had, or with other separates for smart, brand new-evening look. House has sleeve versions shown, or cap sleeves!

Pattern R4630: Misses' Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22. Young 13½, yards 25-inch; skirt 2½, yards 39-inch fabric.

This pattern easy to use, simple to sew, is tested for fit. Has complete illustrated instructions.

Send thirty-five cents (35c) in coin (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern. Write plainly name, address and style number and send orders to:

Anne Adams Pattern Dept., Winnipeg Newspaper Union, 58 Front Street W., Toronto.

as well have a color photograph," said the boy.

"But, no," said the old lady, quietly. "No! Can't you see? She is in love."

"Yes," breathed the girl, "Did you know the artist too?"

"Yes. Very well. He painted that picture fifty years ago . . . in this city."

The boy spoke. "But nobody ever heard of him."

"It was well for artists in those days. There was no interest in art."

"No interest?" said the boy quickly. "Collinson bought that picture and I'll bet he paid a pretty price for it."

"Twenty dollars," said the old lady said. "That was the first picture he bought, that started his collection. He had to buy others . . . more and more to make that girl seem smaller and less disturbing."

"There was a puzzled expression on the girl's face. "But I don't see . . ."

The old lady went on. "In a way it was that picture that gave this collection to the city."

"A million dollar collection," said the boy.

"And it was because of that girl that Harvey Collinson bought the picture. So in a way she saved this city."

The old lady seemed to search her memory for a date. "1869," she said softly. "That was the year the artist came back from Paris. He had been left some money and went to Paris and stayed there until his money was gone. He and Harvey Collinson had been at school together but Harvey had left school at four."

They were working in his father's retail shop. By the time the artist returned from Paris, Harvey had taken over the business and moved into a brick building. He was full of ambition. He was also engaged to a girl.

The girl whispered, "That is why she looks so happy."

"No," said the old lady. "When the artist returned she broke the engagement. Harvey wouldn't let her go without a fight. He said he would give her everything she could want. He asked what the artist could give her."

"What did the artist say?" The girl hung on the reply.

"He laughed and said, 'I will paint her picture and the one thing every woman is afraid to lose, her youth.'"

The old lady lifted her hand as if to show the two young people how true those words had been. "Then he quoted that line of Keats . . . 'Forever with thou love and she be fair.'"

The boy leaned forward. "For ever she'll be fair!" He was right. There was the girl, the model, still young, still perfect, while the artist is forgotten and Collinson is dead.

The old lady waited a moment before she spoke. "Harvey Collinson was angry. He said she was a fool to marry an artist . . . that painting her wouldn't pay their bills. Who did they suppose would buy it?"

"Not you," said the artist. "We'd have to be starving before I'd sell it to you!"

The girl whispered the next words. "And he paid only twenty dollars for it!"

The old lady lifted her hand again. "It doesn't seem to matter now, does it?"

The girl frowned. "And he never painted another picture anybody ever heard of . . . I don't understand. How could he paint like that and yet nobody ever heard of him as a painter?"

"Sometimes," said the old lady. "I think that fame and love are like oil and water. They do not go together." She gathered her coat about her and rose. She stood for a moment before the picture. As she turned to go she looked down at the young lovers.

"But we were very happy." (Copyright Winnipeg Newspaper Syndicate)



After roaming through the lawns and gardens of the Jasper Park Lodge, in Alberta, this raven-colored doe decided to pay a personal visit to Bill Shell, who is head gardener at the famous lodge in the Canadian Rockies. And she wasn't disappointed, as the photo shows. She got a hand-out, then happily and gracefully strolled away—Central Press Canada.

: Western Briefs :

Mama Bear To Rescue

VANCOUVER, B.C.—A little brown bear, caught in a tree here by Francis Stewart, was locked in a shed in the garden. It wasn't long before the mama bear arrived to shatter the shed door and drag her offspring back into the woods.

Good Bag of Geese

WEBB, Sask.—A group of local hunters recently bagged a goose that they bagged 22 large Canada geese. The big birds were taken near the south coast of Antelope lake on the farms of the Weston brothers and J. Bailey.

Musie From Moscow

PLAIN PLAIN, Minn.—Miners searching for strategic materials in the barren lands 800 miles north of here are starting and singing. They have been getting programs from Moscow since the war. The crews have been drilling for nickel ore here.

Mammoth Egg

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, Alta.—Mrs. Fred Ankley, of Rimbey, displayed a hen's egg of unusual size—more than three inches in length and double-yolked. She has been finding one like this every year for 10 years.

Men At Cooking Schools

WINNIPEG—The housewives synod, the rolling pin, is passing into male hands, says Dorothy Rimmer, home economics lecturer here. She

SELECTED

Recipe

RICH PANCAKES AND WAFFLES

Interchangeable cookery method will give you crisp waffles, tender and light—or delicious thinish pancakes. Serve with butter or margarine, and for a savory dish, add bacon, sausages or creamed fish, poultry, etc., or use sweet accompaniments such as syrup, honey or conserve.

2 cups one-sifted flour or 1½ cups one-sifted all-purpose flour
3 teaspoons Magic Baking Powder
1½ teaspoon salt
Five grains grated nutmeg
2 tablespoons fine granulated sugar

2 cups separated
1½ cups milk
1 egg white or Blue Bonnet Margarine, melted

Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt, nutmeg, and sugar together three times.

Beat egg yolks until thick and stir in milk.

Add flour mixture about a quarter at a time, beating with a rotary beater until smooth after each addition; mix in melted butter or margarine.

Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry; fold into batter.

Bake in pancakes or waffles. Yield: 2½ dozen average-sized pancakes or 6 four-section waffles.

THE TILLERS

HAVE YOU SOLD YOUR OLD CAR? YES? PAW! NO! I'M SELLING THE PRICE FIRST!

OH I WON'T HAVE ANY GETTING IT EITHER!

JUST PAID \$500 FOR A TESTIMONIAL THAT WILL HELP ME SELL IT!

YEP! A SPEEDING TICKET FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

TESTIMONIAL

Canada's Finest Cigarette

Alta. Brothers Believed Oldest Identical Twins In Canada

CALGARY.—The Graham brothers—Joe of Calgary and Ben of Vulcan, some 65 miles south—are believed the oldest identical twins in Canada, if not elsewhere. Joe and Ben, the eighth and ninth members of a family of 11, celebrated their 30th birthday recently.

The Calgary twin was still con- valencing from an illness and was unable to take part in the annual birthday celebration. But at Vulcan, Ben was to join Ben to his friends as usual.

Great nephews of Canadian explorer Alexander MacKenzie, Joseph and Benjamin were born in 1862 at Sandy Hill, West Hawkesbury, Ont., the sons of John Graham and Jean MacKenzie, who came to Canada in 1814.

Joe took up carpentry, which they gave up to join Ben at lumbering in the Wisconsin woods. They returned to Canada and bought a farm in Ontario.

Joe married in 1888 and remained on the farm while Ben journeyed to Montana where he worked for four years. Then, in 1893 Ben came to Alberta and took up a homestead near Vulcan. He still lives on his original land. He married that year and had three children, all still in Alberta.

Joe went to Vulcan in 1905 but was not able to stay long enough each year to prove up a homestead because he was still keeping the Cal-

gary farm. In 1915, he returned with his wife, four boys and three girls, and bought land near Vulcan. Joe and his wife retired and moved to Calgary in 1928 and two of their sons remained on the farm, which they still run.

Up until Joe Graham's illness at Calgary, both were in excellent health. Ben still takes an active interest in Vulcan farm activities.

Reaps "Siamese" Wheat Crop

GRAVELBOURGH, Sask.—Double-headed wheat with two heads of wheat on one stem, turned up on the district farm of Roscoe Bicker. He says that while the whole crop was not of the "Siamese" variety, there were enough double-headed stalks to increase the yield appreciably.

The banana is an herb, the largest growing in the world.

Folks sure favor a MAGIC cake!

SELF-ICED SPICE CAKE

Mix and sift 3 cups, 2½ c. de-aerated pastry flour (or 2½ cups self-sifted flour), 2½ cups Magic Baking Powder, 1½ cups salt, 1½ cups ground cinnamon, 1½ cups each of ground cloves, ginger, allspice, nutmeg and mace; mix in 1½ c. washed and dried seedling raisins and 1½ c. chopped walnuts. Add 1 c. butter or margarine and blend in 1½ c. lightly-packed brown sugar, less 1½ c. well-beaten egg yolks and 1½ cups vanilla. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture alternately with 1½ c. milk and spread batter in 9" square pan, which has been greased and the bottom lined with greased paper. Beat stiff, mix dry, 2 eggs whites and a few grains salt; gradually beat in 1 c. lightly-packed brown sugar and spread cake lightly with brown paper for last half hour; bake in a rather slow oven, 325° F., 1½ hours; cover lightly with brown paper for last half hour.



MAGIC BAKING POWDER

delicious INGERSOLL cheese

... gives you nutritious main courses at economy prices!

No need to cut down on main dish goodness just because prices are high!

Start with a simple, inexpensive dish and let INGERSOLL BABY ROLL CHEESE add extra flavor and nutrition. Just see what a wonderful life INGERSOLL Baby Roll gives to omelets, hamburgers, grill sandwiches . . . to any dish where cheese can be used!

Let INGERSOLL Baby Roll spark your main course menus two or three times this week. You'll find you're money in pocket and you're enjoying more delicious and varied meals than ever before! Be sure you ask for genuine INGERSOLL BABY ROLL.

—By Les Carroll



"Say," yelled the man who owned the pond, "don't you see that sign: No fishing here." "I sure do," said the disgusted fisherman. "The fellow that painted that sign sure knew what he was talkin' about."

Only one-fourth of the land area of the Dominion has been improved by man or used as pasture.

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK

That real citizens are judged by what they do. Chronic knackers should be judged by the same standard.

Real citizens prove their worth by generous and voluntary contributions of their time, energy and money to those things that go to make a bigger better and bolder town.

Every real citizen is one of the cogs in the wheel of progress. Those who are not real citizens are unfair to themselves and unfair to

the town in which they live.

Knockers should remember that no matter how much they kick and growl the world moves along just the same. Being a chronic fault-finder never gets a man anywhere.

Citizens must pull together and pull in the same direction, in order to get a town somewhere. No town pulls itself.

Interest in the betterment of a town is kept alive only by constant and ever increasing effort on the part of its real citizens to render a useful service.

Fires may be distinguished from other Canadian confifers by the fact that their cones never hang down but stand erect on the branches.

Naturalists say lichens, growing on rocks across Canada, may be the oldest living things on earth. Their annual growth is microscopic.

When cork was scarce, fishermen on the Great Lakes used to use the thick outer bark of the base of old balsam poplars as floats for their nets.

HERE AND THERE

Walter James of Cluny has been named Red Cross zone chairman for Bow Valley Zone. His work will include the reorganizing or organizing of branches and give impetus to Red Cross work in the area. Mr. James has been an enthusiastic Red Cross worker for a number of years and is well-known in the district.

Last Thursday night the writer drove to the top of Hammer Hill, the highest point in the country. From this hill one can see for miles possibly 30 or more miles away. The country was a glow with lights of combines in action. The country looked like a giant city with street lights. We counted lights of 183 combines working. This could not have included all the machines working for there would be many whose lights were shining in other directions and could be seen.

Probably the world's record in consideration for animals was established the other day when a man whose name was not recorded entered a photographic studio and asked for a piece of film large enough to cover both eyes of his horse. A piece was taken among discarded negatives and Dobbin was equipped a self-photographer. The driver claimed his horse might look up in search of the sun at the wrong moment and have his eyesight impaired for life by the blinding rays.



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The Importance of Soil Conservation

Because of mechanization the exploitation of the soil in North America is possibly the worst in the history of mankind. Already in the comparatively short history of the United States 50 million acres of choice farm lands have been ruined. 100 million acres have lost 75% of the top soil and a further 100 million acres have lost 25% of the productive layer.

Four billion acres of arable land, at the present time, feeds the world's population of 254 billion human beings. The population of the world is increasing rapidly, while at the same time the soil resources are being destroyed through erosion.

Soil Not Thoroughly Understood. Possibly the biggest stumbling block in soil conservation is the fact that many people think of soil as simply a mixture of minerals and organic matter, which must be cultivated in order to produce a crop, and which tracks up the kitchen in wet weather. Soil is indeed a mixture of minerals and organic matter but it is also a living mass of tiny organisms. The work of these organisms is to change the raw minerals and organic matter of the soil into plant food. Without them no crops could be grown, and without organic matter the soil organisms have nothing on which to live.

Organic matter is important in other respects also. It enables the soil to absorb moisture and to retain it. It holds the soil together. Without organic matter and fibre the soil has no binding material. It is then at the mercy of every wind that blows over it and every rain that falls upon it.

Bare Fallows Destructive. Most of our erosion takes place on bare fallows. Nature always supplies a protective cover. We could protect our fields if the trash and stubble remaining after cropping was utilized to the best advantage. Burning, careless cultivation, or the wrong choice of implement can destroy that protection. We need a change in our attitude toward the soil. We must all work for conservation. Yes, you too have a responsibility to the soils of Western Canada.

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